REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. §132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 a. Previously submitted

Application Number 10/804,124 March 19, 2004 Filing Date First Named Inventor Joachim KRETSCHMER 3746 Group Art Unit Examiner Name A. Nguyen 6398 Confirmation Number P25020 Attornev Docket Number

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 of the above-identified application.

Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. \$1.116 previously filed on

Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously Filed on

(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered.)

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. \$1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was flied prior to May 29,2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000) which established RCE practice.

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	b.	\boxtimes	Encl	ose	d																			
i. Amendment/Reply1.114.																								
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iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)																								
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2.	Miscellaneous											00() 0												
a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. §1.103(c) for a period												period												
of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; &e under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) required) b. \[\subseteq \text{Other:} \]																								
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٥.	. Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. §1.114 when the RCE is filed. a. \(\sum \) Payment in the amount of \$1,570.00 is enclosed.																							
	b. If payment in the appropriate amount is not enclosed, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to																							
	charge any fees required by this paper, including the RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e), any extension of time														ne									
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	SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED																							
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Signature					1	_	1/	4		9//		"	Dat	e		_	Т		Robe	rt۱	V. Mueller			
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	CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION																							
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